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ZWOLLE DOCTOR SENTENCED FOR TAX EVASION

SHREVEPORT, LOUISIANA . . . GARLAND MILLER, a 52-year-old physician from Zwolle, Louisiana, was sentenced Friday by United States District Judge S. Maurice Hicks, Jr., to a term of 48 months in prison, to be followed by three years of supervised release, United States Attorney Donald W. Washington announced. MILLER was also ordered to pay restitution of \$55,470.94 to the DeSoto Regional Health System and \$89,130.35 to the Internal Revenue Service, with interest until paid in full. MILLER has been incarcerated since he was taken into custody following the July 2008 guilty verdict of two counts of tax evasion.

The federal indictment filed in March 2007 charged two counts of attempting to evade a substantial amount of income tax by failing to file tax returns and by converting payments to him or his wife to cash and money orders, and by embezzling payments due to DeSoto Regional Health System which he then converted to cash and money orders.

United States Attorney Donald W. Washington stated: "When one seeks to evade the payment of income taxes, all other taxpayers are cheated and must bear a greater burden. No matter one's philosophy

about the income tax system, the obligation to pay taxes due to the United State Treasury is well settled under federal law. This office will continue to aggressively pursue those who illegally evade the payment of income taxes."

Michael J. De Palma, IRS Special Agent in Charge, stated: "Tax evasion is not a victimless crime. Honest, hardworking Americans pay the price when others choose to evade their tax obligations. IRS-Criminal Investigation is committed to aggressively pursuing those taxpayers who willfully fail to file their tax returns and evade taxes."

Sentencing in federal court is determined by the discretion of federal judges and the governing statute. Parole has been abolished in the federal system.

This case was investigated by the Internal Revenue Service - Criminal Investigations, Special Agent Jude Armand, and is being prosecuted by Assistant U.S. Attorney Mignonne Griffing.

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